Online screening and vPE improved genetic testing rates while helping providers meet ACOG HCRA guidelines. The percentage of guideline-eligible patients who subsequently completed HCRA and vPE metrics before and after the intervention were compared using logistic regression and are reported with 95% confidence intervals (CIs). OBJECTIVE: To evaluate the impact of vPE on genetic testing rates, and hence comprehensive HCRA.

Methods

Five community OB/Gyn practices participated.

An 8-week pre-intervention period was followed by an intervention period where providers implemented and practiced HCRA using an online patient screening tool (myGeneHistory™, Myriad Genetic Laboratories, Inc.) and vPE (Figure 1).

HCRA and vPE metrics before and after the intervention were compared using logistic regression and are reported with 95% confidence intervals (CIs).

Figure 1. Study schema and patient disposition

Background

Hereditary cancer risk assessment (HCRA) is an essential component of women’s healthcare, yet many patients seen in obstetrics and gynecology (OB/Gyn) practices who meet guideline criteria for genetic testing do not get tested.

We implemented virtual patient education (vPE) via a pre-recorded video (vPE-V) or video and a telephone call with a certified genetic counselor (vPE-VT), in community OB/Gyn practices.

Figure 2. Pre- and post-intervention metrics of the HCRA process

Results

Of patients who met guidelines for genetic testing, the percentage who were offered testing was significantly higher post-intervention compared with pre-intervention (89.1% vs 59.1%, respectively; OR, 2.06; p<0.001) (Figure 3).

The percentage of guideline-eligible patients who subsequently completed testing was also significantly higher post-compared with pre-intervention (34.2% vs 16.0%, respectively; OR, 2.38; p<0.001) (Figure 3).

Figure 3. HCRA and genetic testing process: Pre- versus post-intervention rates

Conclusions

Online screening and vPE improved genetic testing rates while helping providers meet ACOG HCRA guidelines.